United Nations A/CONF.192/2006/RC/1

General Assembly

Distr.: General
26 January 2006

Original: English

United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects
New York, 26 June-7 July 2006

Report of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects

I. Introduction

1. At its fifty-ninth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 59/86 of 3 December 2004, which read, inter alia, as follows:

> "*The General Assembly*,
>
> "...
>
> "1. *Decides* that the United Nations conference to review progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects shall be held in New York for a period of two weeks, from 26 June to 7 July 2006;
>
> "2. *Also decides* that the preparatory committee for the conference shall hold a two-week session in New York from 9 to 20 January 2006, and reiterates that, if necessary, a subsequent session of up to two weeks in duration may be held;
>
> ..."

06-22457 (E) 090206

II. Organizational matters

A. Opening, the duration and participants of the session

2. The Preparatory Committee held a two-week session at United Nations Headquarters from 9 to 20 January 2006. The session was opened by the Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs, who also made a statement. During the session, the Preparatory Committee held a total of 15 formal meetings and 5 informal meetings.

3. Saijin Zhang, Senior Political Affairs Officer, Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, served as Secretary of the Preparatory Committee.

4. The list of participants is contained in document A/CONF.192/2006/INF/2 and Add.1 and the list of non-governmental organizations is contained in document A/CONF.192/2006/PC/INF/1.

B. Officers

5. The Preparatory Committee elected the following officers:

Chairman:

Sylvester Ekundayo Rowe (Sierra Leone)

Vice-Chairpersons:

Dorothea Auer (Austria)
Pedro A. Roa Arboleda (Colombia)
Carlos Fernando Diaz Paniagua (Costa Rica)
Frédéric Bijou (Costa Rica)*
Kari Kahiluoto (Finland)
Michelet Alouidor (Haiti)
Yoshiki Mine (Japan)
Rosita Sortye (Lithuania)
Robert G. Aisi (Papua New Guinea)
Leslie Gatan (Philippines)
Jacek Januchowski (Poland)
Hassan H. Hassan (Sudan)
Roman Hunger (Switzerland)
Richard Nabudere (Uganda)
Serghii Shutenko (Ukraine)
Dominic Hayuma (United Republic of Tanzania)

C. Adoption of the agenda

6. At its 1st meeting, on 9 January, the Preparatory Committee adopted its agenda as contained in document A/CONF.192/2006/PC/L.1.

* Replaced Carlos F. Paniagua from 16-20 January.

D. Adoption of the rules of procedure

7. At its 1st meeting, on 9 January, the Preparatory Committee adopted its rules of procedure as contained in document A/CONF.192/L.1.

E. Documentation

8. The documents of the Preparatory Committee are listed in the annex to the report.

III. Proceedings of the session

9. At its 1st to 5th meetings, from 9 to 12 January, the Preparatory Committee held the general exchange of views, in which 48 participating States and an observer delivered statements regarding the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects.

10. The Preparatory Committee also heard statements made by representatives of eight intergovernmental and other organizations at its 5th meeting, on 12 January.

11. At its 5th and 6th meetings on 12 January, statements by representatives of a total of 16 non-governmental organizations were heard.

12. At its 7th to 12th meetings, from 13 to 17 January, the Preparatory Committee held interactive thematic debates on six clusters of issues with members of the Bureau moderating each cluster. The clusters and moderators were as follows: cluster I (Human/humanitarian, socio-economic and other dimensions) moderated by Sylvester Ekundayo Rowe (Sierra Leone) and Serghii Shutenko (Ukraine); cluster II (Norms, regulations and administrative procedures) moderated by Jacek Januchowski (Poland), Hassan H. Hassan (Sudan) and Dominic Hayuma (United Republic of Tanzania); cluster III (Excessive accumulation, misuse and uncontrolled spread) moderated by Roman Hunger (Switzerland) and Pedro A. Roa Arboleda (Colombia); cluster IV (International cooperation and assistance) moderated by Yoshiki Mine (Japan) and Kari Kahiluoto (Finland); cluster V (Communication) moderated by Michelet Alouidor (Haiti) and Leslie Gatan (Philippines); and cluster VI (Follow-up and reporting mechanisms) moderated by Robert G. Aisi (Papua New Guinea) and Rosita Sortye (Lithuania).

13. At its 13th to 15th meetings, from 18 to 20 January, the Preparatory Committee considered agenda item 11, entitled "Recommendations to the Conference on all relevant matters, including the draft agenda, draft rules of procedure, draft final documents, background documentation and nominations for President and Secretary-General of the Conference".

14. The Chair, in his own capacity, produced a conference room paper. The conference room paper could not reflect all the views expressed, its substance was neither discussed nor agreed upon.

15. In addition, the moderators' reports, national statements, working papers, conference room papers, national reports and other relevant documents were submitted to the Committee.

16. All the above-mentioned documents will be forwarded to the President-designate.

IV. Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee

17. At its 15th meeting, on 20 January, the Chairman introduced the draft report of the Preparatory Committee as contained in document A/CONF.192/2006/PC/L.8.

18. At the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee adopted its report as orally amended by the Chairman.

V. Decisions of the Preparatory Committee

19. Also at its 15th meeting, the Preparatory Committee took the following decisions:

Decision I
Nomination of the President of the Conference

The Preparatory Committee decides to unanimously endorse the candidacy of Prasad Kariyawasam of Sri Lanka for the presidency of the Conference.

The Preparatory Committee requests the president-designate to undertake the necessary consultations and handle technical and other organizational matters in the period before the Conference.

Decision II
Nomination of Secretary-General of the Conference

The Preparatory Committee decides to invite the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with Member States, to nominate an official to act as Secretary-General of the Conference.

Decision III
Background documentation of the Conference

The Preparatory Committee decides to request the United Nations Secretariat to make available the following background documents for the Review Conference: a list of national reports submitted by States to the Department for Disarmament Affairs; the reports of the First and Second Biennial Meetings of States to consider the national, regional and global implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (A/CONF.192/BMS/2003/1 and A/CONF.192/BMS/2005/1); the report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (A/CONF.192/15); the report of the Open-ended Working Group to Negotiate an International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (A/60/88); and those official documents made available to the Preparatory Committee.

VI. Recommendations of the Preparatory Committee to the Conference

20. At its 15th meeting, on 20 January, the Preparatory Committee submitted the following recommendations to the Review Conference.

Recommendation I
Draft provisional agenda of the Conference

The Preparatory Committee decides to recommend to the United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects the draft provisional agenda as follows:

Draft provisional agenda

1. Opening of the Conference by the Secretary-General of the United Nations.
2. Election of the President.
3. Statement by the President.
4. Address by the President of the General Assembly.
5. Address by the Secretary-General of the United Nations.
6. Adoption of the rules of procedure.
7. Adoption of the agenda.
8. Organization of work.
9. Election of officers other than the President.
10. Credentials of representatives to the Conference:
    (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;
    (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.
11. Confirmation of the Secretary-General of the Conference.
12. Submission of the report of the Preparatory Committee by the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee.
13. General exchange of views.
14. Statements by participants other than States.
15. Adoption of the final documents of the Conference.
16. Adoption of the report of the Conference to the General Assembly.

Recommendation II
Other officers of the Conference

The Preparatory Committee decides to recommend that the United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of

Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects elect 29 Vice Presidents, comprising 5 representatives from the Asian Group and 6 from each of the other regional groups. Nominations should take place at an early stage to permit the president-designate to benefit from the support of the bureau during his preparations for the Conference.

The rules of procedure as contained in document A/CONF.192/L.1 shall be amended accordingly.

Recommendation III
Draft provisional rules of procedure of the Conference

The Preparatory Committee decides to recommend for adoption by the United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects the draft provisional rules of procedure as contained document A/CONF.192/L.1.

Annex

List of documents

A/CONF.192/2006/PC/1	Agenda
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/2	Note verbale from the Permanent Mission of Oman to the United Nations transmitting the report on efforts of the Government of the Sultanate of Oman
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/L.1	Draft provisional agenda
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/L.2	Draft provisional agenda of the Conference
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/L.3	Nomination of the President of the Conference
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/L.4	Other officers of the Conference
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/L.5	Nomination of Secretary-General of the Conference
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/L.6	Background documentation of the Conference
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/L.7	Draft rules of procedure of the Conference
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/L.8	Draft report
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/WP.1	Preparing for the 2006 Review Conference Focusing on implementation: a concrete but flexible arrangement (Submitted by the Netherlands)
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/WP.2	Preparing for the 2006 Review Conference (Submitted by the Netherlands and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/WP.3	Proposal for an intersessional programme of work to enhance implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (Submitted by Canada)
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/WP.4	Suggestion of recommendations for issues contained in cluster I (Submitted by Argentina)
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/WP.5	Suggestion of recommendations for issues contained in cluster II (Submitted by Argentina)
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/WP.6	Suggestion of recommendations for issues contained in cluster III (Submitted by Argentina)
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/WP.7	Suggestion of recommendations for issues contained in cluster IV (Submitted by Argentina)

A/CONF.192/2006/PC/WP.8	Suggestion of recommendations for issues contained in cluster V (Submitted by Argentina)
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/INF/1	List of non-governmental organizations
A/CONF.192/2006/INF/2 and Add.1	List of participants
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/CRP.1	Indicative programme of work
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/CRP.2	Stockpile management and destruction (Submitted by Canada)
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/CRP.3	Assistance to survivors (Submitted by Canada)
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/CRP.4	Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (Submitted by Sweden)
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/CRP.5	Proposal to hold a thematic session on "Best practices of the small arms and light weapons projects and demand factors" (Submitted by Japan)
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/CRP.6	Appropriate use of small arms and light weapons by law enforcement officials (Submitted by Switzerland)
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/CRP.7	Importance of the subject on civilian possession in the combat against the Illicit Trade of Small Arms and Light Weapons (Submitted by Mexico)
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/CRP.8	Synchronization of the Review Conference and biennial meetings of States (Submitted by India, the Netherlands and South Africa)
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/CRP.9	Proposal for an intersessional programme of work to enhance implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (Submitted by Canada)
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/CRP.10	Communicating on the small arms issue: proposed guidelines (cluster V) (Submitted by France in E/F)
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/CRP.11	The strengthening of controls over transfers (import, export and transit) of small arms and light weapons (Submitted by Brazil)
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/CRP.12	Draft elements on ammunition for a final document of the United Nations small arms and light weapons Programme of Action Review Conference 2006 (Submitted by France and Germany)

A/CONF.192/2006/PC/CRP.13	Enhancing international assistance in the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (Submitted by Indonesia on behalf of the members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries)
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/CRP.14	EU strategy to combat illicit accumulation and trafficking of small arms and light weapons and their ammunition (Submitted by Austria on behalf of the European Union in E/F)
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/CRP.15	Addressing the demand for illicit small arms and light weapons (Submitted by Canada)
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/CRP.16	Elements to contribute for a final document of the United Nations small arms and light weapons Programme of Action Review Conference 2006 (Submitted by Angola)
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/CRP.17	Conference room paper submitted by the Chairman
A/CONF.192/2006/PC/CRP.18	Reservation by the delegation of Mexico (Submitted by Mexico in Spanish)